

Fall 9-1-1999

## PSC 324H.01: Canadian Government and Politics

Michael J. Laslovich

*University of Montana - Missoula*

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

---

### Recommended Citation

Laslovich, Michael J., "PSC 324H.01: Canadian Government and Politics" (1999). *Syllabi*. 9222.  
<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/9222>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Course Syllabi at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
Department of Political Science

PSc 324 Canadian Government  
and Politics  
Autumn 1999

Dr. Laslovich  
Office: LA 415  
Hrs.: MW 10-11:00,  
TR 2-3:00 & by app't (4418)

Course Description

A survey of the Canadian political system and the issues that dominate its politics. Emphasis will be placed upon federal institutions and policy-making, along with the economic, social, and cultural underpinnings of Canadian politics. Policy issues, including Quebec nationalism, western alienation, and Canadian-American relations, will be analyzed within their historical and cultural context to develop an understanding of contemporary Canadian politics.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course participants should gain a basic understanding of Canada's government institutions and processes, and how they contrast with the United States. Students will also consider the ethnic, regional and economic challenges to Canada as a "nation-state." Students will also develop their analytical and writing skills via a "write and resubmit" process.

Texts

Students are required to read the following texts which are available at the University Bookstore:

- Gwyn, Richard. Nationalism Without Walls, The Unbearable Lightness of Being Canadian.  
Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1995,  
Jackson, Robert J. and Doreen Jackson. Canadian Government in Transition. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Scarborough,  
Ontario, 1999, and  
Young, Robert A. The Struggle For Quebec. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University, 1999.

Course Requirements

Students will be evaluated upon the following basis:

Research paper prospectus (Sept. 23) .....	5%
Exam 1 (Oct. 5) Topics I-III .....	20%
Research paper I (DUE Oct. 20) .....	15%
Exam 2 (Nov. 16) Topics IV-VI .....	20%
Research paper II (DUE Nov. 23) .....	15%
Final Exam (Thurs., Dec. 16, 10:10-12:00) Topics VII-VIII .....	25%

Drop/Add Deadlines

- Sept. 20 - Last day to drop and add courses by Dial Bear and receive refund.  
Oct. 11 - Last day to drop courses, and/or change grading option.

### Makeup Exam Policy

Students who are excused from a scheduled exam may write a makeup examination. In fairness to all students, exam absences must be approved by the instructor.

### Research Papers

Students are invited to choose a research topic. Research paper prospectuses are **DUE SEPT. 23 IN CLASS**.

Please note that this is to be a research paper. The amount of research undertaken, and the ability to marshal that information effectively, will be crucial in the evaluation of the paper.

The paper should range between 10 to 15 double-spaced typed pages. Research paper I is **DUE OCT. 20 IN CLASS**. Late papers will be penalized 2 points per day, including weekends. Submission of research paper II is **DUE NOV. 23 IN CLASS**.

### The Classroom Learning Environment (authored by Dr. Ronald Perrin, Professor of Political Theory)

Wherever the learning process takes place (for example, in the library or the seclusion of one's study) it does so best when there are a minimum of distractions. This requirement poses special challenges for the learning that takes place in the lecture hall or the classroom, where the possibility of distractions is the greatest.

In order to establish and maintain a supportive learning environment for my students I will not tolerate the few individuals who might be prone to: a) come to class late or leave early, b) carry on private conversations during class, or c) use the lecture hall/classroom as an opportunity to read material, such as the Kaimin that is not relevant to the subject matter under consideration.

The only exceptions to these conditions concern students whose work schedules or unanticipated appointments require them to arrive for class late or leave early. In these instances I would appreciate knowing of the circumstance before it occurs and, in all such instances, request that students do so as unobtrusively as possible. Thank you.

### Lecture Topics and Readings

- I Introduction  
Jackson and Jackson, chapters 1 and 2.
- II Canadian Federalism and the Constitution  
Jackson and Jackson, chapters 3 and 4.
- III The Judicial System  
Jackson and Jackson, chapter 9.
- IV Nationalism – Quebec and the West  
Jackson and Jackson, chapter 4.  
Young.

Lecture Topics and Readings(continued)

- V The Executive – the Prime Minister, Cabinet and the Bureaucracy  
Jackson and Jackson, chapters 6 and 8.
- VI Parliament  
Jackson and Jackson, chapter 7.
- VII Parties, Interest Groups and Elections  
Jackson and Jackson, chapters 10 and 11.
- VIII The Future of Canada?  
Gwyn.

- ex ungue leonem -